NCEP UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAMILY OF SERVICES BRIEFING

PRESENTED BY JOSEPH JOHNSON

NCEP/CENTRAL OPERATIONS

JANUARY 14, 1999

Eta-32 (32km/45Lev)

- **Implemented into operations on February 9, 1998 to replace early Eta Model (48km/38Lev) in the 00Z and 12Z cycles. Forecast length is 48 hours.**

- **Implemented to run at 03Z and 18Z on June 3, 1998 to replace the Meso Eta-29 (29km/50Lev) which ran at 03Z and 15Z. Forecast length is 33 hours at 03Z and 30 hours at 18Z.**

- **Move of 03Z run to 06Z postponed because it would contend with the MRF run. Will be moved to run at 06Z on the Class VIII computer (IBM RS/6000 SP) .**

- **WMO bulletin headers were changed from KWBC to KWBE for most of the output on April 22, 1998 to correctly identify the product generating model. Note: The headers for the 00Z and 12Z ICWF files still show KWBD, but are scheduled to be changed this spring or summer.**

- **Changes to correctly identify the model generation code (84) in the Product Definition Sections (PDS) of the GRIB messages are on hold until the AWIPS software is modified to accommodate these changes. Currently, the 00Z and 12Z runs are identified with model code 89 like the original early Eta-48, while the 03Z and 18Z runs are identified with model code 85 like the Meso Eta-29.**

RUC-2 (Rapid Update Cycle)

- **Implemented into operations on April 6, 1998.**

- **Runs hourly and forecast are produced out to 12 hours every three hours (i.e., 00Z, 03Z, 06Z, etc.) and out to 3 hours at the interim cycles (i.e., 01Z, 02Z, 04Z, etc.).**

- **WMO bulletin header changes from KWBC to KWBG, which were scheduled to be changed last spring are tentatively scheduled for implementation this summer.**

- More extensive and detailed information about the RUC-2 can be found at the following Web address:

http://maps.fsl.noaa.gov/

T170/L42 Global Analysis and Forecast System

- Implemented into operations on June 15, 1998 to replace T126/L28 model. MRF model remained T62/L28 after 168 hours (7 days).

- Since the T170/L42 MRF Analysis and Forecast System did not perform as anticipated, an enhanced version of the original T126/L28, which includes physical parameterizations that were part of the T170/L42, was implemented on October 5, 1998.

- The improved version of the T170/L42 is scheduled to run on the Class VIII computer this spring.

- More information about operational models running at NCEP or in Development, can be found at the Environmental Modeling Center's address:

:http://nic.fb4.noaa.gov.8000/

NOAA Wave Watch III Global Model

- Implemented on November 24, 1998 to run on the Cray in parallel with the current operational global Wave model for verification purposes.

- Has been converted to run on the Class VIII computer and is tentatively scheduled for implementation into operations on the Class VIII computer this spring.

- No products will be produced from this model until it is implemented into operations to replace the current Wave model.

- Information about this new model can be found at:

http://polar.wwb.noaa.gov/NEW.waves/

Y2K Conversion

- All source codes that run in the NCEP operational job suite are now Year 2000 compliant, except the data ingest codes.

- End-to-End testing started in Production Control Project (PCP) of NCEP/Central Operations on Sunday, January 10, 1999. The output from the PCP test will be used in the Y2K communications and evaluation test which will commence at 18Z on January 31, 1999 and end at 06Z on February 1, 1999. The test will involve the exchange of data sets between the National Weather Service, Air Force Weather Agency, Fleet Numerical Meteorological and Oceanographic Center, National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service, Federal Aviation Administration, Family of Services customers, Atmospheric Environment of Canada, and the United Kingdom Meteorological Office.

Class VIII Computer (IBM RS/6000 SP)

- NCEP programmers are currently converting Y2K compliant codes to the IBM system.

- Milestones are included on the next page.

- More information about the IBM RS/6000 SP can be found at the following two addresses:

http://www.ncep.noaa.gov/NCO/NCCF

http://www.ncep.noaa.gov/NCO/PMB/html/projects.html

Major Computer System Milestones

- **Nov 9, 1998 - Early Access System delivered**
- **Dec 14, 1998 - Phase I system delivery began (32 nodes)**
- **March 5, 1999 - 160 nodes delivered**
- **March 31, 1999 - Phase I system complete (192 nodes)**
- **April 30, 1999 - Phase I system accepted**
- ***June 15, 1999 - Decision on C90 Y2K upgrade***
- **Nov 1, 1999 - C90 shutdown**

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NCEP Y2K Focal Point for End-to-End Testing

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Information about GRIB, BUFR and upcoming changes in the NCEP Production Suite, can be found at the Production Management Branch Web page at:

http:/www.ncep.noaa.gov/NCO/PMB/